

Rhode Island
Initiative for a Healthy Weight
(<http://www.health.ri.gov/disease/obesity/home.htm>)

<p style="text-align: center;">The Epidemic</p> <p>56% of Rhode Island adults are overweight or obese. (CDC BRFSS, 2002)</p> <p>18% of non-Hispanic white adults, 23% of non-Hispanic black adults, and 22% of Hispanic adults in Rhode Island are obese. (CDC BRFSS, 2002)</p> <p>The obesity rate for Rhode Island adults increased by 67% from 1990 to 2002. (CDC BRFSS, 1990, 2002)</p> <p>23% of Rhode Island high school students are overweight or at risk of becoming overweight. (CDC YRBSS, 2003)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Program Priorities</p> <p>The Rhode Island obesity prevention program—Initiative for a Healthy Weight (IHW)—received CDC funding for three years under a previous cooperative agreement, beginning in 2000. The IHW has five long-term goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop and implement a state plan and increase the number of local plans. ➤ Decrease population disparities in obesity rates. ➤ Increase the number of obesity prevention policies, environmental supports, and/or legislative actions planned. ➤ Increase physical activity and healthy eating. ➤ Decrease levels of obesity in communities reached through interventions. <p>Implementation of the state plan will focus first on the populations of six core cities that are at highest risk for obesity-related health problems.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Accomplishments and Products to Date</p> <p>Rhode Island achieved a number of successes with its previous CDC obesity prevention funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A successful public-private partnership of over 100 members was established. ➤ A draft five-year state plan was developed. ➤ The burden of obesity in the state was defined. ➤ A pilot school policy and environmental intervention was implemented and evaluated. ➤ Five community partners piloted programs in worksites, communities, schools and the health care system. ➤ The IHW Received the World Health Day 2002 Award from the American Association for World Health/World Health Organization. ➤ The IHW helped develop the NECON Strategic Plan for the Prevention and Control of Overweight and Obesity in New England. ➤ The IHW obtained a seat on the state Transportation Advisory Committee. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Upcoming Events and Products</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Obesity Planning Council will update the state plan using the <i>State Plan Index</i>. ➤ A new request for proposals to implement state plan recommendations will be issued. ➤ Focus groups will be held to identify barriers to implementation in high-risk communities. ➤ A report on the burden of obesity for Rhode Island will be completed. ➤ A new website will be unveiled.
<p style="text-align: center;">Partners</p> <p>The Rhode Island Obesity Planning Council is a 140-member coalition with representatives from state government, state agencies, academic institutions, the business and medical communities, and public and private nonprofit organizations and institutions that will provide the basis for the new program's planning and implementation partnerships.</p>	<p>Project Period: 2004-2008 Year First Funded: 2000 Funding Stage: Capacity Building Contact Person: Toushoua Xiong Program Manager Rhode Island Department of Health Telephone: 401-222-1087 Fax: 401-222-4415 E-mail: toushouaX@doh.state.ri.us</p>

